MINUTES OF THE
MARICOPA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS
INTELLIGENT TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM COMMITTEE

March 18, 1998
MAG Office Building, Ocotillo Conference Room
302 North First Avenue
Phoenix, Arizona

MEMBERS ATTENDING

Steve Hogan, Scottsdale, Chairman   *Mike Branham, Surprise
Ty Hofflander, Chandler   Ed VanDerGinst, Tempe
Gary Thomas, Gilbert   Joe Spadafino, for Tim Wolfe, ADOT
Jim Book, Glendale   *Alan Hansen, FHWA
*Tom Buick, Maricopa County   *Cydney DeModica, AAA
*Alan Sanderson, Mesa   *Jonathan Upchurch, ASU
*Jim Matteson, Phoenix   *Richard Traill, Phoenix Aviation
Scott Miller, RPTA

*Members neither present nor represented by Proxy

OTHERS PRESENT

Pierre Pretorius, Maricopa County/AZTECH   Anne MacCracken, MAG
Paul Ward, MAG

1.   Call to Order

        The meeting was called to order at 10:15 a.m. by Chairman Steve Hogan

2.   Approval of the February 18, 1998 Meeting Minutes

        The minutes of the February 18, 1998 meeting were unanimously approved.

3.   AZTECH Update

        Pierre Pretorius reported that the AZTECH launch date remains June First or Second depending on
        when the Secretary of Transportation is able to attend. He stated that all jurisdictions are on
        schedule except for Phoenix Transit. Mr. Pretorius said that there will be 25 to 30 days of operation
        before the official launch. He said because Scientific Atlantic is leaving the ITS business, that their
        contracts were terminated. Jim Book asked if any payments were made to Scientific Atlantic. Mr.
        Pretorius answered that the cost are being negotiated because grounds were lacking for termination.

4.   Status of Recommended ITS Projects Submitted for the FY 1999-2003 MAG Transportation Improvement Program

Paul Ward reported that all the ITS projects recommended by the this Committee were approved by the Management Committee. He said next Tuesday the potential projects will go before the Regional Council. Mr. Ward stated that MAG will received possibly 48 million dollars even though MAG only programmed for 40 million. He said that this means that possibly MAG jurisdiction will have available 2.4 million dollars for spending this fiscal year. Combined with a reimbursable of 1.7 million in CMAQ and the acceleration of transit projects last year, means that MAG jurisdictions may have a total of seven to eight million in extra obligation authority. Mr. Ward recommend that that the design portion of potential projects for the 99-03 TIP may be accelerated to this year. Since ITS projects are air quality neutral, conformity analysis is not necessary. He said that accelerating the design portion may be a matter of an administration adjustment and may take only 30 days.

Mr. Ward suggested that committee members attend the presentation by Floyd Roehrich on obligating the design portions of projects. He said that if projects are designed this year, projects will be ready for construction next year and become the highest priority of redistributed funds. He stated that Floyd Roehrich said that he will accept Design Concept Reports for any of those ITS projects. Ty Hofflander said that there were problems in the past with ADOT accepting advanced projects. Mr. Hofflander suggested that Mr. Roehrich address that concern. Steve Hogan said that he hopes that ITS projects become as easy to accelerate as transit projects.

5.   Funding Opportunities

Paul Ward distributed a copy from the Senate Webb page comparing ISTEA I to ISTEA II. He said that the state of Arizona portion may increase by 53.4 percent. He reported that the Budget Authority only allows a 20 percent increase over ISTEA levels. This represent the difference between allocation and spending levels. Mr. Ward distributed another sheet from the Senate Webb page which detail the breakdown of different funding categories for each state. He pointed out that Arizona may receive 17.4 millions dollars in CMAQ funds which is an increase over the 12 million allocated during ISTEA.

6.   ITS Project Rating System

Paul Ward distributed a map showing the ITS Corridors in the MAG Region. Pierre Pretorius said that even though a corridor is shown as funded, they may not be complete and may need additional funding. Steve Hogan stated that the first priority for funding are the corridors marked in brown and the second are ones indicated by yellow and green. He said that priority may be given to some projects not shown in brown because of special circumstances. Those will be decided on an individual case basis. Paul Ward said that the CMS is used as a guide and that the technical committees still recommend projects to the TRC. He suggested devising an ITS rating system during the interim period. Steve Hogan recommended that this work should wait until the new ITS person is hired. Ron Krosting said that rating system should be flexible enough for special projects. Ty Hofflander asked if a subcommittee was formed for this work. Mr. Ward said that he would contact the subcommittee and set up a meeting.

7.   Status Report by Committee Members of ITS Activities

Ed VanDerGinst said the contracts have been signed for the traffic control and parking management system. Jim Book reported that the AZTech connection into City Hall was very successful. Steve Hogan stated that he wanted to add an update on telecommunication policy as it affects ITS to next month's agenda. He said of interest is how jurisdictions are dealing with the infrastructure and telecommunication companies.

8.   Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:15 a.m.